Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-10 (canceled).

Claim 11. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~10~~ 18, wherein the downloading ~~step~~ includes downloading the text material from at least one of the following: a smart card; an electronic memory card; and a PCMCIA card.

Claim 12. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~10~~18, further including associating a unique key with the text material.

Claim 13. (currently amended) The method of claim 12 wherein the downloading ~~step~~ includes selectively downloading the text material based upon the unique key.

Claim 14. (currently amended) The method of claim 13 wherein the selectively downloading ~~step~~ includes:

comparing the unique key with a key for the viewer; and

preventing the downloading if the unique key does not match the key for the viewer.

Claim 15. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~10~~ 18, wherein the downloading ~~step~~ includes decrypting the text material.

Claim 16. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~10~~ 18, wherein the downloading ~~step~~ includes decompressing the text material.

Claim 17. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~10~~18, further including permitting a user to purchase the electronic books.

Claim 18. (currently amended) A method for storing text for electronic books to be displayed on a viewer, comprising:The method of claim 10

    displaying an indication of a plurality of electronic books on a viewer;

    receiving a request to view one of the electronic books;

    selectively displaying pages for the selected electronic book; and

    downloading text material for the selected electronic book from a portable storage medium, wherein the downloading step includes limiting access to the text material based upon a time parameter.

Claim 19. (currently amended) The method of claim 10 18, wherein the downloading step includes limiting access to the text material based upon a number of downloads and viewing of the text material.

Claim 20. (canceled).

Claim 21. (currently amended) The viewer of claim 20 28, wherein the downloading step includes downloading the text material from at least one of the following: a smart card; an electronic memory card; and a PCMCIA card.

Claim 22. (currently amended) The viewer of claim 20 28, further including associating a unique key with the text material.

Claim 23. (currently amended) The viewer of claim 22 wherein the downloading step includes selectively downloading the text material based upon the unique key.

Claim 24. (currently amended) The viewer of claim 23 wherein the selectively downloading step includes:

    comparing the unique key with a key for the viewer; and

    preventing the downloading if the unique key does not match the key for the viewer.

Claim 25. (currently amended) The viewer of claim ~~20~~ 28 wherein the downloading ~~step~~ includes decrypting the text material.

Claim 26. (currently amended) The viewer of claim ~~20~~ 28, wherein the downloading ~~step~~ includes decompressing the text material.

Claim 27. (currently amended) The viewer of claim ~~20~~ 28, further including permitting a user to purchase the electronic books.

Claim 28. (currently amended) A viewer for displaying electronic books, comprising: ~~The viewer of claim 20~~

a portable viewer having a processor, a memory for storing instructions, a memory for storing electronic books, and a display for displaying the electronic books, wherein the processor operates under control of the instructions to execute a method comprising:

displaying an indication of a plurality of electronic books on the viewer; receiving a request to view one of the electronic books; selectively displaying pages for the selected electronic book; and downloading text material for the selected electronic book from a portable storage medium, wherein the downloading ~~step~~ includes limiting access to the text material based upon a time parameter.

Claim 29. (currently amended) The viewer of claim ~~20~~ 28, wherein the downloading ~~step~~ includes limiting access to the text material based upon a number of downloads and viewing of the text material.